

March 15, 2005

The Honorable John Dingell
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Dingell:

Thank you for your re-introduction of Patient Bill of Rights legislation. We deeply appreciate your continuing, long-standing dedication to the safety and protection of families in managed care plans.

Last summer's Supreme Court decision in Aetna v. Davila reaffirms the need for national legislation to provide essential, life-saving protections for Americans enrolled in managed care plans. The Court's decision, in cases where individuals were severely hurt by denial of necessary and appropriate care, demonstrates that Congress must step in to protect the public against financially-driven decisions that can prevent the delivery of needed health care.

Your legislation would provide a wide range of needed protections that will help people in their hour of sickness. We look forward to working with you on the enactment of this much-needed legislation.

Sincerely,

Ronald F. Pollack
Executive Director